# EQUAL RIGHTS

**"MEN AND WOMEN SHALL HAVE EQUAL RIGHTS THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES AND EVERY PLACE SUBJECT TO ITS JURISDICTION"**

***Amendment to the United States Constitution now before Congress***

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## World Woman's Party Launched

## Another Woman's Party Convention Becomes History

## Convention Greeting Of National Chairman

By SARAH THOMPSON PELL

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NATIONAL WOMAN'S PARTY

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# Equal Rights

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## NATIONAL WOMAN'S PARTY

### OBJECT

To secure for women complete equality with men under the law and in all human relationships—in particular to secure the adoption of the Equal Rights Amendment to the Constitution, and the adherence of the United States to the Equal Rights Treaty. The Woman's Party also supports the proposed Equality Amendments to the Covenant of the League of Nations.

### THE PROPOSED EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT

"Art. 1—Men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction.

"Art. 2—Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."

**Introduced**

Senate—By Senator Townsend (Del.), and Senator Burke, (Neb.), Feb. 5, 1937, (Senate Joint Resolution No. 65).

House—By Representative Ludlow, (Ind.), Jan. 5, 1937, (House Joint Resolution No. 1).

**Present Status**

Senate—Before Judiciary Committee, recommitted May 5, 1938, on motion of Senator William E. Borah; reported to Senate by Senate Judiciary Committee March 21, 1938; favorable report by sub-judiciary committee June 23, 1937.

House—Before Judiciary Committee; favorable report by sub-judiciary committee June 16, 1937.

### THE EQUAL RIGHTS TREATY

"Art. 1—The contracting States agree that upon the ratification of this Treaty men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the territory subject to their respective jurisdictions."

**Signed**

By Cuba, Ecuador, Paraguay, and Uruguay, at Montevideo, December, 1933.

### PROPOSED EQUALITY AMENDMENTS TO COVENANT OF LEAGUE OF NATIONS

"The members of the League undertake that in their respective countries the right of vote shall not be denied or abridged on the ground of sex."

"The members of the League undertake that in their respective countries there shall be no distinction based on sex in their law and practice regarding nationality."

"The members of the League undertake that in their respective countries men and women shall have equal rights in all other fields."

"The members of the League undertake that there shall be both men and women, with full voting powers, in all delegations to the Council and Assembly of the League and to all Conferences under the auspices of the League."

**Present Status**

Before the League of Nations Committee on Status of Women.

# Faulty Thinking

WHAT IS it that prompts a married woman who has no desire or necessity to work, to endeavor to see to it that other married women, whose desires and needs are wholly different from her own, are prohibited from working for a living?

The only possible justification could be "ignorance," if ignorance might ever be termed justification. *Hi-Lites*, bulletin of the Business Women's Legislative Council of California, brings the news of a new national organization known as the Employment Reform Association, formed by Mrs. Elsie McFadden Fern, which favors removing from business married women whose husbands can support them.

All such movements are founded on the slogan—"back to the home"—regardless of the fact that millions have no home to which they can return, and no home at all unless they provide it for themselves.

Mrs. Fern says: "As long ago as 1933 we used to talk about what a shame it was that so many young people . . . were out of jobs. We decided that this situation was partly the fault of married women working, whose husbands were able to support them."

It is not such a simple thing to provide jobs for young people, who need them, merely by depriving married women of the right to work. A boy or girl who needs a job, could not replace a woman lawyer or doctor, unless they happened to be lawyers or doctors. An experienced nurse, eliminated by marriage from practicing her profession, would not provide a job for a bookkeeper, and her elimination from the field might work a serious hardship on the community she served.

"Who is to be the judge of adequate support?" says the California Bulletin, and "does not experience or special fitness and qualifications in any given job count for anything?" Apparently not.

When law prohibits either men or women from working for a living, it is depriving them of the opportunity not only of making a living, but of learning to become economically independent.

Talents are not distributed on the basis of sex, and it is no more just for Mrs. Fern, who prefers to be a housewife and dependent on someone else, to ask the law to attempt to cast all women in her mold, than it would be for business and professional women to demand a law compelling Mrs. Fern to seek a job.

Faulty thinking is the trouble in proposed solutions of the economic problem such as the new Employment Reform Association offers. If there are not enough jobs to go around, why not try to provide more jobs, rather than seek to dispose of those who need them?

When we are faced with a shortage of food, we endeavor to produce more food. We would hardly consider killing off those who are hungry.

If Mrs. Fern and her co-workers had investigated the results of Section 213 of the Economy Act, now repealed, but which put out of jobs many married women employed by the United States Government, they would not at this late date advocate something Congress has found to be a mistake and has taken action to remedy.

Homes were lost, and families separated. Girls and boys came home from college. Suicides were chronicled. Death took its toll and hospitals claimed victims.

No, Mrs. Fern, it is not as simple as that. The solving of the economic ills of a nation is no job for an amateur. Men and women are human beings. It is better for the individual and the nation that they be free.

# World Woman's Party Launched

## NATIONAL WOMAN'S PARTY IN CONVENTION TAKES INITIATIVE IN FORMING WORLD WOMAN'S PARTY

LAUNCHING the World Woman's Party was the concluding event of the business sessions of the biennial Convention of the National Woman's Party meeting in Detroit, Michigan, October 7, 8 and 9. Having voted at the previous convention to enter the world field, the plan was consummated Sunday morning, October 9, with the amending of the Constitution, clearing the way for the broader effort toward securing for women of the world an equal status with men.

The historic session was held in the English room of the Book Cadillac Hotel, was presided over by the national Chairman, Mrs. Stephen H. Pell and addressed by Alice Paul, founder and leader of the National Woman's Party, who has spent so much time in recent years in Geneva, standing by, with other members of the Woman's Party foreign relations committee and women of other countries, to safeguard the rights of women at the League of Nations and in action taken by the International Labor Organization.

Announcement was made in Detroit that already a number of women leaders throughout the world have consented to serve on the committee during the formation of the World Woman's Party. Among these are Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, foremost British feminist; Dr. Hannah Rydh, head of thirty-eight Swedish women's organizations and delegate from Sweden to the League of Nations Assembly; Mrs. Rickard Sandler, leader in women's groups in Sweden and wife of the Swedish Minister of Foreign Affairs; Mrs. Margaret Cousins, of India, member of the Executive Committee of the All Asian Conference of Women, of which she is past president; Madame Marie Lenoel, foremost woman leader of France; Mrs. Linda Littlejohn, of Australia, President of Equal Rights International; Erica Butler-Bowdon, of London, England, an officer of Equal Rights International, and Madame Emilie Graizier, of Geneva, noted Swiss woman leader.

The National Woman's Party, which is taking the initiative in organizing the World Party, will become the United States Section, similar organizations in other countries to constitute other sections. The launching of the World Woman's Party was the culmination of a cherished desire of Alice Paul to have the National Woman's Party take the lead in initiating a world movement to secure for women of the world an equal status with men "so," she says, "that in every place in the world the status of men and women will be equal." In selecting a name for the world organization, the National Woman's Party considered carefully the advantages of the designation of the new body. The decision to call it the World Woman's Party was made because of the advantage of the fact that already in other lands, men and women are familiar with the objective of the National Woman's Party—AN EQUAL STATUS FOR MEN AND WOMEN. This fact, it was pointed out, would eliminate the necessity of much explanation as to the nature of the organization, particularly in Geneva, where representatives from many nations of the world gather and form international agreements materially affecting women in member nations.

While the movement was formally launched at the historic convention of the National Woman's Party in Detroit, the details must be completed at the meeting to be held shortly in Geneva, Switzerland.

Already a World Woman's Party headquarters in Geneva has been selected and will be put in readiness to house the new world movement. Ideally situated on beautiful Lake Geneva in close proximity to the two famous seats of international deliberations, the new headquarters of the World Woman's Party will stand like a sentinel on guard. This headquarters will house the first movement in the world for complete equality between men and women.

The morning of October 9, 1938, just before the clock struck the hour of noon in the English room of the Book Cadillac Hotel, will go down in history as an important date, hour and place for women of the world, as marking the beginning of a movement that bids fair to be one of the most important women have ever known.

# Why Women Work

Why do women work?

The most accurate answer to this question, so rich in social implications and invitations to controversy, may be told in three short words—they have to.

Such, at least, is the conclusion to be drawn from two recent studies of women who work. One, made by the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, showed the economic status of a rather successful and relatively well-paid group of 12,000 workers, members of the federation. Their median income of $1,315 a year is far higher than the average of the more than 10,000,000 American women, who, in the exact language of the census taker, "are gainfully employed outside the home."

The other study, by the national board of the Young Women's Christian Association, looked at the budgets of several hundred younger and less generously paid workers. Their median earnings were $959 a year.

The results of both surveys are effectively assembled by Beulah Amidon in the Survey Graphic. She shows how in both these groups the commonly heard charges that women workers "have only themselves to support" or that they "work for a thrill or pin money," are not borne out by the facts.

In the federation group one woman worker in two supported other persons, and one sixth of those reporting were heads of households of from two to seven members. Only 3 per cent. not only had no dependents, but lived in households to which they made no contribution. Only this minute minority could fairly be called a "pin money group," women responsible neither for their own support nor the care of others.

In the Y. W. C. A. group the median age is only 25, and the average earnings small. But even on median wages of $18 a week 66 per cent. of these young women had other persons wholly or partially dependent upon them.

Women work outside the home because they have to, because they must support themselves and because others need their help. These surveys may not go far in answering the question of whether too many women work, but they should help to lay the "pin money" libel.

# Another Woman's Party Convention Becomes History

WITH WORK for the Equal Rights Amendment greatly accelerated after three days of meetings and conferences, the Biennial Convention of the National Woman's Party, Detroit, Michigan, October 7, 8 and 9 came to a close Sunday evening, October 9, with a Democracy for Women Rally.

The meeting climaxed three days of reports of epochal gains throughout the country, with the added support of a number of National organizations now in the campaign, the inclusion of an Equal Rights plank in the Republican and Democratic platforms in Delaware, a similar plank in the Republican platform in New Jersey and a plank promising equal opportunity in the Democratic platform in that State.

Governor Nice, of Maryland, sent a greeting in which he pledged support; Senator Townsend, Republican, of Delaware, one of the sponsors of the Amendment in the United States Senate, and Representative Ludlow, Democrat, of Indiana, sponsor in the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States, wired their good wishes and expressed the opinion that sentiment for the Amendment is rapidly growing.

Opening with an evening meeting at which Mrs. Stephen H. Pell, national chairman presided, Representative Virginia Jenckes, Democratic member of Congress for Indiana, struck the keynote of the Convention when she said: "Do not hope for equality—vote for it!"

Harking back to the days of the suffrage campaign, suffrage prisoners and pickets held a luncheon reunion and reminiscenses. It was not difficult to understand, listening to the stories of those who suffered hardships for a cause in which they believed, why the National Woman's Party has made such phenomenal progress in its effort to secure for women of the United States equal rights with men. It was apparent that the flame then kindled was an eternal flame and that to members of the Party, as to Susan B. Anthony "Failure is impossible."

The banquet on the evening of October 8 was outstanding and the occasion was a momentous one, for Alice Paul, founder and leader of the Woman's Party, spoke prophetically of the compelling and immediate need for women to broaden the field and to work for equality between men and women as a world objective. The following day the Woman's Party amended its Constitution, clearing the way for the launching of the World Woman's Party, which was announced the closing days of the convention.

During the banquet the Woman's Party, through Anita Pollitzer, vice-chairman, paid an affectionate tribute to its beloved parliamentarian, Mrs. Emma Fox, announcing that on March 29, the Party will sponsor an Emma Fox Day in connection with the sale of her revised book on parliamentary law.

Mrs. Florence Bayard Hilles, immediate past national chairman and a member of the National Council, was another important speaker and during her remarks read the greeting from Senator Townsend of her state.

Many important speakers were featured at all the functions and meetings.

The Michigan Branch of the National Woman's Party, and its chairman, Olive Hurlburt, were in charge of arrangements and left no stone unturned to make the event a success from every standpoint. Every member of the branch served in some capacity and assisted in achieving the splendid success of the Convention.

Prominently displayed was the enlargement of the Equal Rights Campaign Fund seal, announcement of which was made at the first business session of the Convention.

Against a blue firmament with three silver stars, one representing the three pioneer workers for equal rights, Lucretia Mott, Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony, was shown the majestic figure of Liberty, holding high in one hand the torch of freedom and carrying in the other the symbol of balance—the scales, one side of which bore the figure of a man and the other side bearing the figure of a woman. At the left-hand side on a field of red were the words—"Equal Status for Men and Women Will Balance Our Constitution." The seal is to be used in an educational campaign to carry the message of the Woman's Party throughout the United States, and at the same time to raise a campaign fund.

Since Equal Rights goes to press as the Convention comes to a close, further details of the biennial meet will be given in the next issue.

## Massachusetts Democrats Would Bar Married Women

The following plank in the platform of the Democratic Party in Massachusetts speaks for itself:

> The Democratic Party is unalterably opposed to the employment in the public service of married women whose husbands are gainfully employed and able to support their families.
>
> We believe that every citizen willing and capable of working shall receive a just and living annual wage which will enable him to maintain and educate his family according to the standards of American decency.

This plank has four serious implications. It assumes that women are less than citizens. It would give a Government bureau arbitrary power over married women, by prying into the financial affairs of every family whose women members might wish to find employment in the public service. It would weaken the public service by making single blessedness for women rather than efficiency the test of employment. It would penalize marriage.

Women may well ask, Can working women marry? Who is to be the judge of what is an adequate wage to support a family and extra-family dependents? Are we to turn everything over to Government supervision and dictation? What is to become of our standards of morality if marriage is penalized? What will be the next step in removing women from business and public life?

Massachusetts Democrats must not be allowed to turn the clock back!

## What Women Are Saying

If women held the highest and most responsible positions in all countries, the world would never be threatened with war. They should seek high offices, even the Presidency. That should hold good in all countries. Women are much calmer under pressure, and with them in responsible positions, I feel assured peace would be forever universal.—Mary Pickford, in *The Christian Science Monitor*.

# Convention Greeting Of National Chairman

By Sarah Thompson Pell

A WORD of greeting and weclome to the delegates to the 1938 Convention of the National Woman's Party.

This Convention marks a new chapter in the history of the National Woman's Party and, therefore, of all women. During the last two years forward steps have been taken, as you know from reading the call to this Convention, and we can well be pleased with our accomplishments.

It has been a great honor and pleasure to serve as your Chairman during the past two years. One of the greatest moments of my life was at the close of the hearing before the Senate Judiciary Committee in Washington last winter. Our women defended the cause of Equal Rights with great dignity, wit and poise, as well as with irrefutable logic. I am certain that the Senators who listened to our arguments were greatly impressed and are persuaded of the righteousness of our cause. Even I am more firm in my faith that when women have won their full place in our national life, the result will be a nobler history, and we will have a better baanced society in which to live.

The Report of the Hearing is a very valuable document in our favor, and should be widely circulated among the judiciary in the States.

If I had been able to attend the dedication of the great Sequoia Tree in California, to the memory of Susan B. Anthony, I would have considered myself fortunate, as it must have been a most insipiring occasion. This giant tree stands as a perfect tribute to a great soul, who trod her humble way to greatness for love of her sex.

Twenty years ago women could not join the great political parties and had no influence in the national life, but today they are taking equal part with men in public affairs, and in many instances hold positions of confidence as intelligently and with as much integrity as any man.

The members of the National Woman's Party are a unit, and we do not look to personal leaders but to the principle of EQUALITY to guide us to our goal—an Equal Rights Amendment to the Constitution—which will give women equality with men in these United States.

Women are more united than men, as the basic interest with all women is the home. This gives us a point of view in common, and an active interest in public welfare. But, unfortunately, there is a division among women regarding the results of protective laws as against the statement of the principle of Equal Rights which operates impersonally to remove discriminations. I always feel that the reason the opposition becomes so personal is because the methods they use are purely personal ones, but no one can successfully argue against this principle of Equal Rights any more than against the multiplication table.

At this Convention we are placing before you for consideration a number of plans to change the set-up of our Party. Our reason for this is to broaden interest in the National organization and to make it more possible to finance our activities.

We hope that the next two years will bear even richer fruitage, and we can be sure that as progress unfolds, in spite of and not because of even our best human efforts, we must move nearer our goal, which is to establish Equal Rights for men and women in our National Constitution in order that Democracy may be completed, as Democracy is not Democracy unless it includes all adult citizens, regardless of sex.

# Why I Am A Soroptimist

WHEREAS, before becoming a member of this club, I was occupied in being a wife, mother, homemaker, companion, nurse, amateur doctor, dressmaker, tailor, seamstress, barber, chiropodist, manicurist, teacher, hostess, cook, housemaid, errand girl, laundress, shopper, cash and carry expert, gardener, club woman, welfare worker, stenographer, hot air artist, tutor, chauffeur, household mechanic, bridge player, Lost and Found Department, newspaper writer, postal mailing service, short story writer, novelist, and had therefore *nothing on earth to do*,

AND WHEREAS, the Census taker, calling more and more often, always insisted on listing me under "NO OCCUPATION," thereby causing serious damage to my nervous system and sweet disposition,

AND WHEREAS, the Treasury Department also suffered acute astringency from so many unclassified jobs,

THEREFORE, it is resolved that only one thing on earth remained untried, to *retire completely*, and go into BUSINESS, which is recognized as an occupation and not a joy ride and which places the female in the position of saying to the male: "Hunt your own hat; go to your own tailor; mow your own lawn, and employ your own stenographer." And to the Census Taker make reply: "Oh, yes, I have an occupation, certainly! Anything else? Kindly close the door as you go and beware of the dog, he is so suspicious of strangers—"

AND LIKEWISE, it was discovered that business was not only a rest, an asset, and etc., but being an open door to Soroptimism, it was also a great and growing joy, which therefore explains the state of being a Soroptimist, and advising others to come and be one, too!

Signed and sealed, on this day of February 27th, in the year of 1931.—Ella Wister Haines, in the *Philadelphia Soroptimist.*

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## Can Working Women Marry

Voters in more than 30 cities and towns will decide at the coming elections whether they are in favor of their representatives supporting legislation which would bar married women whose husbands are gainfully employed from holding state, county, city and other public positions. Sufficient signatures have already been filed to place the question on the ballot in selected cities and towns.

Among them are Brockton, wards 1, 2 and 3; Quincy, wards 1, 2 and 3; Brookline, Milton, Grafton, Milford, Shrewsbury, Southboro, Upton, Weston, Berlin, Bolton, Boylston, Clinton, Harvard, Holden, Lancaster, Northboro, Princeton, Sterling, West Boylston, Arlington, Lexington, Waltham, Watertown, Maiden, Melrose, Stoneham, Medford, North Adams, Worcester, wards 7 and 9, and Springfield.—Boston *Herald.*

# A Feminist Thinks It Over

By ALMA LUTZ

WOMEN HAVE had a great deal to think about during the past few weeks as they have seen the astounding advance in Europe of an ideology which relegates women to a sphere definitely separate from men. Whatever they may think about other phases of this coup d'etat, they cannot fail to be disturbed over the consequences of the peace in relation to the progress and freedom of women.

Czechoslovakia was a friend to women. Its delegates to the League of Nations were understanding and helpful to the women who were in Geneva asking for equal status. The Czech women have the ideals and love of independence that are bred in a democracy. Able Czech business and professional women took an active part in the life of their country.

A few months ago, when the International Federation of Business and Professional Women met in Budapest, women of Hungary and Czechoslovakia were watching with great anxiety the shadow from the West which hung over their countries. Asked by Lena Madesin Phillips what could be done to help them, they replied, "The only thing that can be done, must be done now. You must bring pressure to prevent what may come about. Nothing can be done after an invasion."

Now it is too late. What then was a shadow, now is a reality in Czechoslovakia. Nazi soldiers have taken possession and where they have not yet entered, the influence of Nazi philosophy is already being felt. Freedom and equal opportunity for women in Czechoslovakia will be quickly snuffed out.

What will now be the fate of Hungary and other small countries east of the Rhine? Can they long withstand economic pressure and boring from within? And that is not all. What will be the consequences of the peace for women in France and England? Every indication points toward increased power for the Fascist groups in these countries. Winston Churchill, as reported in the press, sees the end of British liberties and the conquest of British opinion by the Nazis.

This one thing we know. When Nazi philosophy enters, freedom for women walks out. By defining women's sphere as distinctly separate from men's and making women believe that there is something better than equality, Nazi ideology has obliterated women from public life, has limited their opportunities to obtain higher education, to enter the professions, and to engage in certain kinds of work. It has banned women's organizations except those under government direction. It has glorified as women's supreme role, bearing children for the State.

With an outlook such as this, the future looks dark for women in Europe, but there is a spark of hope in the Scandinavian countries which have been the outstanding friends of freedom and equal opportunity for women, and in Russia where equal opportunity for women has been realized to a marked degree. There is hope in Geneva where a group of far-seeing women, representatives of women's international organizations are still working together for international action on the status of women.

In this crisis a great responsibility rests upon American women. In fact, never before have organized women had such a call to rally under the banners of feminism. If we dilly-dally, it may be too late, for a shadow is stalking across this hemisphere. Nazi philosophy is penetrating South America and even in our own country, there are any number of reactionary tendencies—some expressed in attempts at legislation limiting women's employment opportunities; some expressed in subtle newspaper and magazine stories depreciating women's abilities and encouraging a "back to the home" movement, as if women ever lost their interest in the home, no matter how wide their interests or their opportunities.

This is the time to dedicate ourselves to more intensive work for equal rights in Geneva, to a more vigorous campaign for the Equal Rights Amendment, and to placing more women in our legislative councils and in important government positions, so that we can control our own destinies.

## A Little Late, But Progress

Eunice Goody Cole, who in 1656 was sentenced to Boston jail for witchcraft, was exonerated today when townspeople voted unanimously to restore her, after 282 years, to citizenship.

Goody Cole was sentenced by a judge of the Massachusetts Bay Colony to ten years in jail, so long as citizens of Hampton would pay her board.

After serving out the sentence, she returned to Hampton to bear sneers and nagging of townsfolk until she died. Her body after death was pierced with a spike and mounted with a horseshoe so the devil could not possess her, and then buried in a roadside grave.

At Hampton Beach last summer there was formed the Goody Cole Society, pledged to clear her memory. After the Town Meeting a copy of the accusations against the woman was publicly burned and dirt from her grave was put with burial ceremony in a cemetery.—Hampton, N. H., Dispatch to New York *Times*, March 9.

## Mrs. Ransome Addresses Soroptimists

Soroptomist International, meeting in Atlantic City, through the courtesy of Amelia Johnson, of California, former national president and more recently national legislative chairman, heard Mrs. Amy Ransome, of the National Council, National Woman's Party, tell of the equality work done in Geneva during the last Assembly of the League of Nations, when she sat as a member of the Consultative Committee.

Mrs. Ransome urged that all women take a part in this work for women and outlined the international program, which includes four proposed equality amendments to the revised Covenant of the League of Nations together with the Equal Rights Treaty.

The Soroptimists were engaged in federating the American, English and European sections at this convention and for that reason delayed action pending the setting up of the international committee. The American Section had already endorsed the Geneva program, but European and British Sections had not.

Following the Atlantic City Convention, a number of the foreign delegates came to Washington and were entertained at Alva Belmont House, national headquarters of the Woman's Party where they were received by Alice Paul and others. Among the visitors from other lands were Dr. Clara Miejers, of Amsterdam, president of the Soroptimist Federation of Continental Europe: L. Roeters van Lennep, Maris Rebel, of Haarlem; Constance Bletz, of Amsterdam; Dr. P. Elizabeth Brugsma, The Hague, all of Holland; Jessie McDowell, of Vancouver, Canada, and Dorothy Johnson, of England.

## Who Are These Women?

Not the least of the truly sensational developments that are promised for the edification of the public in the coming Congressional contests to find out "who's to be who?" in Washington next year and thereafter, will be the nation-wide struggle of some twenty women's organizations led by the National Woman's Party, to take all "sex" comparisons out of the Constitution! Neither Republican, Democratic nor so-called Progressive, these determined women, after 25 years of hard work to gain what they refer to as "equal rights with all men," are lining up for a solid frontal attack on public opinion and Congress as well, just "to get a few things ironed out!"

For example, they say that if the United States should get into war tomorrow, women could be drafted and sent to the front, as readily as men—always provided, of course, they passed the regular mental and physical examination required by the Army and Navy. Just for that, and a hundred other reasons that affect property rights, guardianships, etc., they simply insist on all discrimination between men and women, as such, be struck from the Constitution without delay. That their arguments have some merit at least, is indicated by the fact that in the 75th Congress just adjourned, this mere handful of 3,000,000 women jammed the Equal Rights Amendment through the Senate Sub-Judiciary and the main Judiciary Committees, and are now working day and night to finish the job, hammering this thought in every law-maker, editor and serious thinker in the land: "If we believe in a Democracy, then we have to believe that Law should not be based on sex, but on Justice!"

But, *who are these women,* you may be asking—that they can insist on a point like this in troubled times when women already have the vote, hold office, compete with highly paid male executives in business, and wield an undisputed and ever-growing influence in the routine affairs of our commonwealth? They have an answer for that, too. They simply point to the so-called Wall Street figures, i. e., that 60 per cent of all the sound and valuable securities in America belong to American women; that women wield about 90 per cent of the nation's buying power, sending it upward, retarding it, shooting it downward again or doing what they please with it. They have plenty of opposition to their ideas, but it seems to come from those who frankly admit they do not understand what anybody is driving at when they say "take sex out of the Constitution!" They had not known it was there! But apparently it is, when the Constitution sets forth repeatedly how certain of our laws apply to "men" and then to "women," discriminating between the two classifications, only, however, by naming the sex. "Enough of that!" say the militant women. "Let the laws refer to 'citizens' only. Sex has nothing to do with a law's application. Under our Constitution, it is not a right but a duty to serve in the Army in time of war, for example."

So a great and compact wing of our American womanhood is on the march against all people and things that want to keep "sex" in the Constitution, and while they do not by any means represent or speak for a majority of women of this country, they are well organized, persistent and efficient—as the achievement of suffrage proved years ago. *"What are we waiting for?"* they ask in unison. And poor old Congress can but shake its shaggy head in bewilderment!—*Le Messager De New York.*

## From A Harem To Freedom

Madame Mihri de Rassim was born in Constantinople, Turkey, in a harem. For centuries, her family had been among the ruling class of Turkey and her ancestors numbered many Ambassadors to foreign countries as well as holders of high positions at home.

Her father, Prince Alciba de Rassim, was a famous physician and modern scientist, well known to the medical world. He was private physician to Sultan Abdul Hamid, the last real ruler of Turkey under the old regime, and held the office of Commissioner of Health in the city of Constantinople.

The imagination of the young Princess at an early age became fired with pictures of the freedom accorded to American woman. Her love of liberty led her to escape from the harem before she was fourteen years of age. She was befriended by many distinguished persons in Europe, notably an Italian woman of noble birth. She was enabled to pursue the study of art and had among her teachers some of the most eminent in Europe. The young student early showed unmistakable signs of talent and her work was accorded honors by many of the higher institutions in European countries. She became famous at an early age.

After Turkey became a republic, Madame Rassim was commissioned to paint a portrait of President Kemal. When the government of Yugo-Slavia decided to dedicate a memorial to the late King Alexander, her portrait of President Kemal was chosen as most worthy to be presented to the government of Yugo-Slavia as a gift from the Turkish Government.

While very young, Madame Rassim chose Edison as her ideal American and her highest ambition was that of painting his portrait, an ambition that was realized shortly before his death.

Perhaps the greatest irony in the thrilling story of this famous woman is that for many years her eyes were turned towards the United States as the ultimate goal in the emancipation of women. However, since her residence here, Turkish women have attained to a freedom greater than that achieved by women of this country for Turkish women have reached the goal of absolute equality under the law. Seventeen women now sit in the Legislature of Turkey as against six in the similar governing body of the United States.

In the decade and a half since the proclamation of the Republic, Turkish women have been granted the full equality for which after one and a half centuries under the Constitution, women of the United States are still fighting.

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# Book Reviews

## THE ANT'S NEST

By Muriel Daly, 276 pages. $2.00. D. Appleton-Century Company.

*Reviewed by Inez Haynes Irwin*

This is another of those interesting first books by women, in this case not a girl, but a woman, relatively young.

Miss Daly's experience would delight the most ardent feminist, no matter what Miss Daly's private opinions of feminism may be. Born in England, she was brought up in Bordighera, Italy, with two years at school in England and four years in Malta and France. At twenty-three, she bought and developed a little English paper of which she was, in her own words, "proprietor, editor, contributor, manager and office boy." For some time after the war, it was the only English journal in Italy. Miss Daly's newspaper was killed by the Abyssinian War, but in the meantime she has become correspondent for the Italian Riviera to the London *Times*.

The book itself is not so astounding as *Young Man With a Horn*, but it has great charm and sparkle. It consists of a series of chapters which are short stories in themselves and all concerned with the divigations of one of those English colonies inevitable to every Riviera town. Except for their foreign setting, the stories show as gentle a quality as a novel by Jane Austen. But one or two of them might be the starting point of a play or of a moving picture. *At the Majestic —Interchange* is such a story. In brief Miss Green, poor but well-connected, is the paid companion of Mrs. Jobson, rich and insolently domineering. At the beginning of the story, Mrs. Jobson learns suddenly that she has lost her entire income. Almost at the same moment Miss Green receives the news that she has fallen heir to a large fortune. She has always hated and despised Mrs. Jobson, has always longed to break away from her. But in spite of all this, when she considers the situation in which her ex-mistress finds herself, an unwelcome pity flows into her heart. In the end she engages Mrs. Jobson for her companion. And if you want to know how that situation works out, you must read the book.

The following paragraph is an excellent keynote for the book.

> Lady Watt's progress to dinner and her arrival in the dining-room was always rather like a royal procession and the opening of parliament. There was, however, the same uncertainty which attends all royal processions. Parliament may be opened in good or bad weather and Lady Watt went to dinner in a good or bad temper. Today the sun was (metaphorically) shining, flags fluttering, gay crowds cheering. After the admirable example of royalty, she was very punctual, and emerged from her room as the clock struck half-past seven. She was followed by Marcelle carrying her small dog and other impedimenta and also, since Marcelle's hands were full, by the chambermaid, in case the lift-boy was not there (but he always was), to help install her in the lift. When they reached it four people had just entered, but General Sutton and Miss Wilkinson hastily vacated it. They protested that they really preferred to go down on foot, and Lady Watt, saying that, of course, if that were so she would be glad to take their places, took them with the air of conferring instead of accepting a benefit. The manager was at the gates as she left the lift, and accompanied her to the frosted glass door with *Salle à Manger* across it in curling script; there he passed her on to the *maître d'hôtel*, who waited in readiness to escort her to her table. Marcelle followed, placed Kitchy-Koo on a chair by his mistress' side, and the bag, wrap, and book on another. After seeing that everything was exactly as miladi liked it, she withdrew in the wake of the *maître d'hôtel*.

## Commends Women Jurors

District Attorney Thomas E. Dewey, of New York, not long ago accused "a vast number of responsible citizens" of undermining the jury system by reluctance to serve.

Deploring the fact that so many citizens evade jury duty, he said that "the citizen who evades jury duty deserves a badge of dishonor," and likened such a citizen to a "slacker in time of war."

"Women jurors," he said, "strengthen the jury system. They bring interest and enthusiasm to their duty and quickly learn to distinguish between sham defenses and real ones, to judge lying witnesses and to see that justice is done."

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